

[Sample News Release]

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE:
CONTACT:

**LIBRARY OFFERS *UTAH KIDS READY TO READ!*
TRAINING AND MATERIALS**

Your local library can help you raise your child to be a reader. Using the latest research-based information found in the *Utah Kids Ready to Read!* Program your child can get a head start on developing reading skills, even as a newborn. This new program is now available at the _____ Library.

Research shows that parents are a child's first and most important teachers. Reading early and often to your child lays a foundation of reading success and lifelong reading. Reading aloud to babies, toddlers, and preschoolers develops language skills, increases vocabulary, enhances critical thinking and creativity, and nurtures emotional growth and self-confidence.

Utah Kids Ready to Read! explains how to develop your child's literacy skills even before he or she enrolls in school. The library offers a wide variety of services and programs that support early literacy including those listed below:

[Fill in the following according to availability at your library.]

Find *Utah Kids Ready to Read!* brochures and other free materials to help parents get their children ready to learn to read.

Board books, picture books, easy chapter books, book and cassette kits, and other materials that children and parents can enjoy together are also available.

Educational computer software to reinforce early literacy skills is offered.

Story times and other programs for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers that use songs, rhymes, and games to help develop reading readiness skills are accessible. These story times also model techniques that parents can use at home to make reading time more fun.

Local librarians offer monthly *Utah Kids Ready to Read!* Parent/Child Caregiver Workshops in which parents and caregivers are taught the six early literacy components and how they can use them at home to help their child with reading readiness.

PSA 1 MINUTE

Research shows that parents are a child's first and most important teachers. Reading early and often to your child lays a foundation of reading success and lifelong learning. The _____ Library now offers help in the form of *Utah Kids Ready to Read!* training and materials made available free to the public. Call the _____ Library now at _____ for more information.